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F A R M . S C H O O L . H O M E

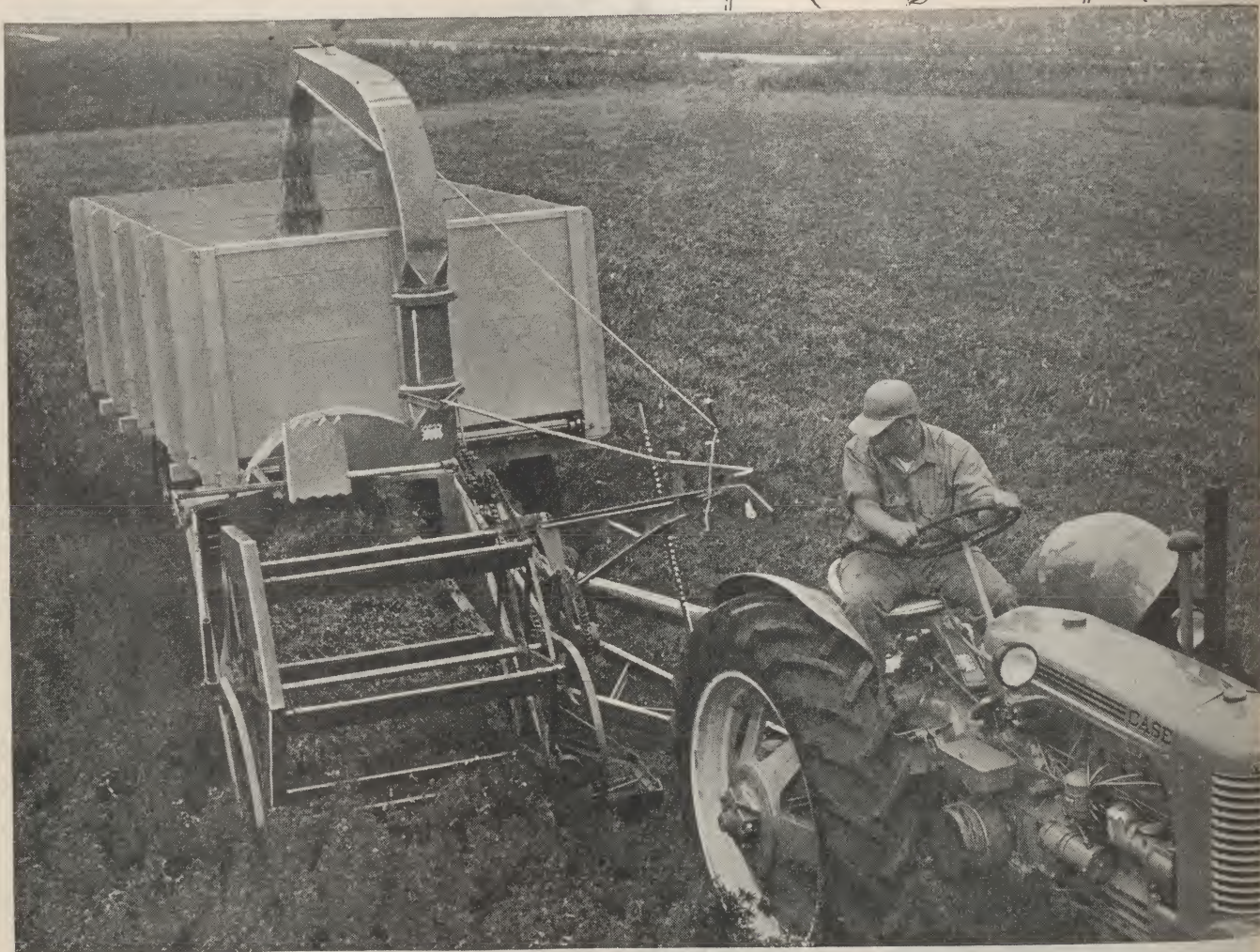


Greatest guardian of our soils is grass. Greatest single principle of soil conservation is grassland farming. And in that the great problem is how to make the grass productive and profitable—a worthy challenge to young ideas.

Green feeding is a new name for the old-world practice called soiling. It now becomes practical here because fast-working machines take the place of drudging labor. To choose between green feeding and grazing takes keen judgment on many points, from pasture fencing to possibility of bloat. In any plan for green feeding, the thing most essential is dependability of the machines that do the daily cutting. Cattle can't wait for their meals.

As you consider the merits of various meadow mixtures . . . of unloading to feed rack or allowing animals to eat from wagons . . . of greater or less amounts of grain and hay along with grass . . . take heed, too, of the machines you choose. For more than a hundred years it has been a Case habit to make every part a bit better than might seem necessary. It's an old habit that can help young ideas make the most of grass . . . whether you graze or green-feed, put up hay or silage. J. I. Case Co., Racine, Wis.

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The St. Lawrence Seaway

The major interest which farmers have thus far shown in the St. Lawrence Seaway is concern about the relatively few acres which will be flooded by the project, and more particularly about the remuneration which will be paid for this land. Granted this re-location is painful to those directly involved. However, farmers should be thinking of the real meaning of the Seaway to their industry.

So far as our domestic economy is concerned, the Seaway is perhaps the number one event of the present century. It takes its place alongside the construction of the Canadian Pacific transcontinental railway system in the last century. The real significance of the Seaway may be imagined when we think of ocean going vessels proceeding from the Eastern seaboard not only to Fort William and Duluth, but to Chicago, and, with the addition of other projects, right through to the Mississippi. Thus the proper conception of the Seaway is one which envisions the continent split by an ocean transport route all the way from Montreal to New Orleans. Nor should it be forgotten that transportation is one of the most critical factors in accounting for industrial and social progress. We should think in terms of a new orientation of the whole industrial structure of the continent along a line from Montreal to New Orleans.

This conception of the scheme may seem visionary. It might be thought that digging a few ditches will not change the whole face of the continent. But we should realize that these developments will coincide with an extremely rapid increase in population, in industrial production, and in incomes. There is every reason to believe that over the next 30 years the population of Canada will increase by at least 40 to 50 per cent and our national income will double.

Such projections put meat on the skeleton provided by the Seaway. Our industrial development will likely be rapid in the Prairies with its oil and in our northland with its minerals. But the prospect is that these advances will be dwarfed by what will happen in the St. Lawrence Valley and Great Lakes region. The industrial potential of Canada will lie increasingly in an area from Quebec City to Windsor and Sault Ste. Marie.

We outline in broad terms a tremendous industrial development. But it doesn't stop there. It provides the basis for a great expansion in Canadian agriculture. As population increases as indicated above and as Canadians become richer, the home market for Canadian farm products will rise by 55 to 60 per cent. This expansion of the demand should solve most of the problems which worry farmers. An increase in the demand for farm products of the magnitude suggested will not be easy to secure. It will place the pressures on our farm land supply, and on the labour force employed in agriculture. This doesn't mean that we shall run out of land or that we won't have the people to operate our farms, but rather that the pressures on these factors will lead to higher relative prices for farm products and higher returns to farmers.

All this means that farmers should gear their thinking on farm policy, and their demands on government, toward realizing the most out of the coming industrial boom. It also means that they should give less thought to having government attempt to solve farm problems by more and more restrictions and handouts. The industrial boom which is in our lap can be nurtured by a free economy. It could be defeated by a restrictionist economy.

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How Much Protection for Dairy Farmers?

by J. T. Davidson

WE HEAR a great deal these days about our higher costs of production for dairy products and the resultant clamour for protection from "cheap imports". The Dairy Farmers of Canada and the National Dairy Council (processors and distributors) seek adequate protection in the form of an outright ban or at least high tariffs on cheap imported vegetable oils and the products from which edible oils can be obtained. The dairy farmers now suggest there be no further importations of cheddar cheese and other dairy products so long as dairy products are in surplus position in this country.

There is no doubt that our dairy farmers who produce milk for cheese, butter, and manufactured purposes feel anxious about the situation. In the last three years net farm income has dropped to an alarming degree in their section of the dairy industry. In addition there has been a steady shrinking of the world export markets for dairy products. To that extent we can sympathize with dairy farmers for taking a protectionist point of view.

A Look at the Situation

Butter production last year was 313 million pounds and consumption increased by 7 million pounds to 293 million pounds. Thus we started the new year with a 20 million pound surplus of this product.

Cheese production last year was increased by about 8 million pounds over 1953 to a total of 82 million pounds. About 68 million pounds was consumed at home and 5 million exported. We could consider the increase in the surplus stocks at about 9 million pounds.

Margarine production in Canada was up last year over 1953 by 5 million pounds to a total of 116 million pounds. Imports of special cheese from countries like Holland, Switzerland, Italy and the United Kingdom usually have run about 3½ million pounds a year. In January of this year, for the first time since 1952, New Zealand exported 2½ million pounds of cheddar cheese to Canada. In the three year period from 1950 to 1952, we imported 20 million pounds of cheese from this country.



The government may be hard pressed to retain its present support price on butter at 58¢. By subsidizing either exports or domestic consumption the surplus will be removed from storage. But the cost of doing this through the operations of the Prices Support Board may result in pressure to cut back on the support price to discourage further production increases and to increase consumer demand.

Cheese producers do not seem too optimistic that cheddar exports will be much higher than the 1954 level of 5 million pounds. Yet in the last three months, exports have run more than 1 million pounds each month causing some feeling of optimism. On the other hand Canadian producers are alarmed that New Zealand imports could be as much as 7 to 9 million pounds and thus jeopardize their situation further.

Margarine vs. Butter

It is difficult to judge to what extent the 115 million pounds of margarine produced last year represents a direct loss to butter producers. At a price of 58¢ for butter-fat it is highly unlikely that butter production would jump to the required level of 350 million pounds or more to meet the demands for high quality fats. If the price was higher to induce production, consumers would simply eat less butter.

The federal government price support program on butter at 58¢ including a guaranteed price on storage holdings; a year round price that encourages consumption; and imports permitted only when stocks are low, has meant a great deal to dairy farmers. While 58¢ is not

an incentive price to cream producers, we still have no problem in producing enough butter.

The rapid industrialization of our economy, along with a growing population, increases demand for all dairy products and especially for fluid milk. Dairy farmer organizations should set as their primary goal the stimulation of consumer demand for fluid milk. If half of our 17 billion pound annual milk production went directly to the fluid trade, there would be no surpluses of butter, cheese or other dairy products. It is also likely that prices for these dairy products would rise accordingly and the dream of a pooled price for milk could be realized.

The present government support price policy on butter is clearly designed to hold the line while the dairy industry adjusts itself. It is not designed to protect the manufacturers of dairy products or the dairy farmers so that old patterns can continue unchanged. The policy forces necessary adjustments in easy stages but at the same time prevents them from being ruinous in their effects.

That 2¼ Million Pounds Of New Zealand Cheese

Cheese is in a slightly different position from butter as it is traditionally an export commodity. As we have pointed out cheddar cheese production in 1954 was 82 million pounds (up by 7 million pounds over 1953). Domestic consumption amounted to 68 million pounds and exports about 5 million pounds. Storage stocks on hand are up by 9 million pounds over a year ago.

It would seem there is a strong case for the position taken by the Dairy Farmers of Canada protesting the importation of 2¼ million pounds of New Zealand cheddar cheese early in January. But let us realize that trade is a two-way street. Canada has exported in the past 5 years 104 million pounds of cheese worth close to 30 million dollars mostly to the United Kingdom. In the same period we imported nearly 36 million pounds of cheese for which we paid 15 million dollars. On the balance, Canada came off 15 million dollars to the good on the trade and managed to find markets that took, on an average, over 20 million pounds of cheese per year.

Our government made a deal with the New Zealand government to restrict her exports of cheese to Canada. In the three-year period from 1950 to 1952, New Zealand exported 20 million pounds of cheese to this country. Since 1952 New Zealand has shipped no cheese to our market.

Now that British currency restrictions are removed, New Zealand figures it is possible for Canadian cheese producers to sell in the U.K. market. The New Zealand government felt it had to export to Canada to pay for purchases of machinery and manufactured goods purchased here. New Zealand's chief exports of course are dairy products, wool and mutton. As New Zealand has a rather serious trade deficit with Canada, our government agreed to allow them to export cheese to us.

How much real cheese surplus do we have? This year's 82 million pounds is still 10 million pounds less than the 1948 to 1952 average production of 92 million pounds per year.

All of the 2¼ million pounds of New Zealand cheddar went into processed cheese of which 44 million pounds was produced in Canada last year. Processed cheese provides a market for over 30 million pounds of our annual cheddar cheese production. Expanding processed cheese sales means a better market for our cheddar production. In recent years sales of mild pasteurized cheddar cheese has also been stimulated under various brand names. Our cured cheddar, if of good quality, will command a premium price in the retail trade. If Canadian consumption of cheddar could be increased to 6 pounds per capita we would consume 90 million pounds in Canada.

A Final Point About Trade

Farmers and their organizations have always supported a policy of freer trade. That some manufacturers and other groups are proponents of tariff protection is no excuse for farmers to abandon their traditional role. We should uphold, as the solid basis for farm policy, the idea of reducing restrictive trade barriers that protect Canadian manufacturers at the expense of consumers many of whom are farmers.

It is not in the best interest of Canada or Canadian farmers to have restrictive trade barriers. We cannot hope that everyone else will take our pulp and paper, lumber, minerals, farm products, and manufactured goods while we at the same time increase restrictions and barriers.

A freer flow of food between nations is a more likely solution to the so-called shrinking world markets for dairy products. We have to face the fact that such trade also makes adjustments necessary from time to time. We may be forced sometimes to produce new or different products or vary the quantities. Canadian dairy farmers have suffered loss of markets in the U.S. because of that country's dairy product embargoes. This is no excuse for our following suit especially when much of our economy is still so dependent on buoyant world trade.

Canadian dairy farmer representatives were in the forefront at the recent meeting on dairy surplus problems organized by the International Federation of Agricultural Producers. They backed the proposal for freer trade with due regard to the dairy surplus situation in each country. Unhappily some of our dairy products are in surplus and it looks as if New Zealand paid no attention to the 'due regard' clause. Surely this is all the more reason for Canadian dairy farmers to press vigorously for an international plan to be put into effect not just talked about. This would seem a better program than requesting further government embargoes, tariffs, and restrictions.

Are Co-ops the Answer

To Better Livestock Marketing?

LAST month the Journal pointed out some of the possible difficulties in establishing producer marketing boards for livestock. As we suggested then, it is by no means certain that schemes like the Ontario hog marketing board are the final answer to increased returns to the farmer.

Here in Quebec, it is rather doubtful that our government would favour the development of any national livestock marketing board under federal jurisdiction. As well there is a very strong co-operative tradition in this province. Marketing boards with wide powers granted producers under provincial legislation could be regarded as a threat to co-operative enterprises. Farm marketing policies now being carried out by the provincial government definitely favour co-operative development, the improvement of marketing facilities, and the stimulation of private trade. The present administration is not likely to favour government operations in the complex field of marketing farm products.

Co-operative Marketing

This month we would like to bring to your attention a possible alternative to marketing boards in the development of farmer controlled livestock marketing arrangements—at least in our own province. The Co-operative Federee de Quebec, Canada's largest farmer-owned wholesale concern dealing in farm supplies, and also in the business of marketing its members' livestock and meats, dairy products, and other farm products, has now branched into the meat packing industry.

With the building of its first centralized co-operative packing plant in Princeville, the Federee started into the packing business in earnest. Up until that time the central co-op's livestock and meat products division mainly acted as a wholesaling concern for the many small and rather inefficient local co-operative abattoir scattered about the eastern part of the province. These strictly local ventures sold most of their products locally. The Federee sold for them only what they couldn't handle at home.

The development of this first centralized packing plant was designed to improve co-operative packing facilities in an area where the many small local plants were struggling to make ends meet. The second stage was the purchase



of a larger plant in Quebec West and now this year the Co-op purchased a very modern well-equipped plant in Quebec City which doubles their meat packing capacity.

The Federee's sales of meat products produced in their own modern packing plants now constitutes a major proportion of the returns from livestock and meat products handled. A look at the Federee's annual statement for 1954 would not indicate any great change in the total livestock and meats handled. The figure is \$15,400,000 or 26 percent of the co-op wholesale's \$60,000,000 total sales volume. This is about the same proportion as handled by other wholesale co-operatives across Canada. However, a much smaller proportion of the Federee's sales volume of livestock and meat products is from stock yard handlings, purchases of feeder stock for members, or from acting as a selling agency for surplus meat products of small local plants.

The three central co-operative plants operate as a single unit. Most of Quebec's Eastern Townships and Lower St. Lawrence region is served by the co-op packers. It is of interest to note that normal price differentials between Montreal and this part of Quebec have been pretty well eliminated. The small local co-op plants were never able to pay their members Montreal prices for their livestock and still show a profit in their operations.

The Federee now claims that at certain periods of the year they can pay producers even slightly better than Montreal prices. Since they centralized and expanded their meat packing facilities in the eastern region they have been able to consistently pay at least current Montreal prices to the farmer.

Volume is Key to Success

The co-operative packing plants seem to have demonstrated their ability to exert an influence in the livestock market outside the Montreal area. The big question remains unanswered when it comes to the Montreal market. Would a co-operative packing plant in Montreal be any influence on that market?

Even by making generous allowances, the Federee's total packing facilities do not account for more than 15% to 17% of Quebec's annual livestock marketings. Consider that livestock production over the past few years has averaged over 1 million hogs, 100,000 cattle (½ being culled out dairy animals), and 250,000 veal calves per year. You can see readily what a stupendous task is faced by the co-ops in developing this field.

If the next logical step is for the Federee to move into the packing business in Montreal, such a decision would not be made lightly. Huge investments in packing facilities, cold storage, would be required to say nothing of attracting competent, aggressive management and efficient trained employees.

It is estimated an efficient large scale packing plant in Montreal could require capital investment in the order of 10 million dollars. The packing business is a highly competitive one despite the fact there are comparatively few large scale buyers. For co-operatives to be a force to be contended with, they could not afford to be small-scale operators in the Montreal market.

Looking to the Future

A co-operative packing plant in Montreal could have some advantages not enjoyed by competitors. Local co-ops would feel obliged to procure and direct livestock to their own plant. This would help the co-op plant procure their necessary proportion of the daily kill. Such groups as the Ontario Hog Agency and the Canadian Co-operative Sales Agency would likely favour co-operative processing of the stock they handle.

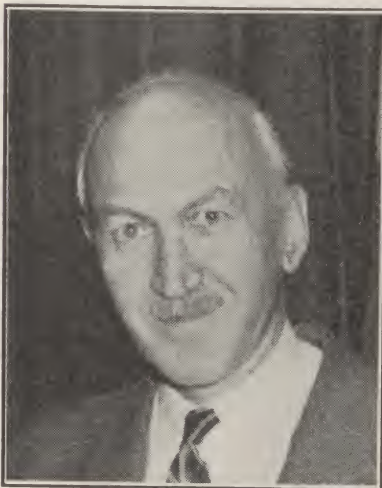
The Federee through centralized efficient operations is doing the packing job previously carried out in a haphazard fashion by small local co-ops. A greater share of the Federee's livestock and meat sales now goes into the profit side of the ledger. This means greater returns to the local co-ops than could be realized from their own small costly operations.

A producer marketing agency in control of direction of livestock can assure producers of at least market value especially if operating on a national basis. With a strong development in co-operative meat packing, producers would still be assured of market value. As well

they would, through membership and purchases in their local co-operative, share in the returns from the packing operations.

Expansion of co-operative processing might possibly put Quebec's livestock producers in a better position than would be possible with provincial marketing boards.

A New Job For Stan Chagnon



Stan Chagnon has been receiving congratulations these days with publication of the news of his appointment as Assistant Deputy Minister of Agriculture at Ottawa.

Mr. Chagnon, a native of St. Jean Baptiste in Rouville County, has had a colourful and successful career in agriculture. Starting

his Canadian experience as Assistant Animal Husbandman at the Central Experimental Farm, following a short term as a county agent in the United States, he has, since 1927, been Director of the Livestock Division at Quebec, Director of the Provincial Farm-School at Deschambault, Chief of the Extension Services and Director of the Provincial Dairy School. For five years, from 1945 to 1950, he was with a seed firm in Montreal, leaving this post to become vice-chairman of the Agricultural Prices Support Board.

Mr. Chagnon is a familiar figure at all agricultural association meetings, and it is the rule, rather than the exception, to have him as one of the guest speakers; no matter what the organization, he always seems to have an intimate knowledge of its programmes, past history and future aspirations, and he never fails to bring words of sage advice. Our best wishes go with him in his new and responsible position.

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Beef Or Back To The Sea?

by J. A. Roberts

Are once productive marshland soils to be abandoned to the sea? Production of beef seems to be one answer to this question, as marshland soils are ideally suited to the production of grass and grain.

MOST authorities agree that, in the future, most of our marshland areas will be devoted to beef production. The marshland soils are ideally suited to the production of grass and grain crops, and good marshland pasture produces high quality feed throughout the grazing season. This, coupled with the fact that the Maritime Provinces import a high percentage of the beef they consume, would indicate that the marshland areas offer an ideal opportunity for the expansion of our beef cattle industry.

In many cases farmers in the marsh area are still operating on the basis of direct hay sales. Naturally, when the hay crop is light in other parts of Eastern Canada and New England hay prices are high and the farmers make reasonable profits. At the present time most of our marsh farmers appreciate the fact that hay sales are uncertain and are looking for other uses for their marshland. There is a renewed interest in beef cattle and fortunately some of the finest beef herds in the Maritimes are located in these marsh areas.

Marshland Soils are Fertile

Work carried on at the Dominion Experimental Farm at Nappan indicates that fertilizer applications other than ground limestone are usually not necessary for the production of grass and grain crops. Over a thirty year period they have maintained and increased yields with the application of one and one half tons of lime every five years when the land was plowed and reseeded. Soil analysis indicates that amounts of available plant food in the soil are higher now than at the start of the experiment. Certainly no other soils in Eastern Canada will continue to produce with as small an expenditure for fertilizer.

That the marshlands can be used for other crops than hay or grain has been demonstrated at the Dominion Experimental Farm at Nappan, and at the Penitentiary Farm at Dorchester where for the past two years all of the vegetables, other than potatoes have been produced on marshland soil. Yields are high and quality is good.

The marshland areas of the Maritimes were at one



time the centre of our most prosperous and progressive farming areas. However their failure to keep abreast of the times and to abandon a market (direct hay sales) that was fast disappearing has retarded their development so that by no means full use is being made of these once productive acres.

Why Marshlands Need Rehabilitation

Interest in marshland development reached its peak in the latter half of the 19th century. During this period land companies were formed and these along with individuals did much to develop the large blocks of marshland located in Cumberland and Westmorland Counties. Large canals were dug in order to allow the silt laden water to flow in to the lower areas and deposit its load. By this means large areas that were originally peat bogs were covered with productive mineral soil. City business men invested heavily in this development and in many cases income received from marsh areas reached \$100 per acre per year.

With the passage of the horse as a means of transportation in the city, and the resulting decreased demand for hay interest weakened, the absentee landowner became a problem and drainage works began to depreciate. In certain areas of the marshland, where the marshland formed an integral part of the farm unit, the farmers were interested enough to keep up the dykes and to maintain their drainage works. However, in the Westmorland, Albert, and Cumberland Counties where farm income depended on direct hay sales, ditches were allowed to go uncleared and dykes to weaken. The depression during the thirties followed by the labour shortage during the war years resulted in both drainage works and dykes being allowed to further deteriorate.

The Problems of Dykes and Drains

The early settlers had to build dykes to keep out the sea and to dig drainage ditches to remove excess water.

We still find that many of our drainage and land use practices closely resemble those followed by the original settlers.

The drainage practices now in use in our marshland areas are based on tradition rather than on the results of research and experimentation. A drainage system consists of a main drainage channel, which may be a natural creek or a canal, which serves an appreciate area; a secondary ditch that serves a number of lots and the dale or field ditches that drain individual fields. During the past year standards of construction have been prepared for the main and secondary ditches and all new work is being constructed to these standards. In the case of the dale or field ditches no standards are available and drainage authorities in the Maritimes hesitate to make recommendations.

The dale ditches now in use are mostly hand dug ditches with a bottom width of 6 to 8 inches, a top width of about 24 inches and a depth of 24 to 30 inches. These ditches are placed at 40 to 100 feet intervals and it will be seen that in this period of mechanization they have many disadvantages. Over a period of years in many locations the waste earth removed when cleaning the ditch has been piled close to the ditch banks and these now constitute miniature dykes that prevent surface water from entering the ditches.

Is There a Better Drainage System?

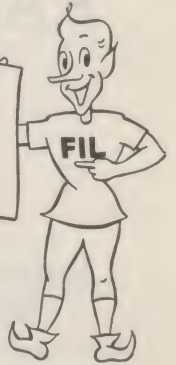
There are two definite schools of thought in regard to dale ditching practices. One school maintains that the ditches as presently constructed are the only effective means of draining marshland. A second school feels that by careful grading and sloping to prevent "Ponding" it will be possible to use broad shallow ditches that can be crossed with modern equipment. The advantages of such a system need not be described.

Unfortunately it has not been possible to secure any experimental data on the relative merits of the two methods. It is known that in the United States the so called "bed method" of draining flat areas is being widely used by the Soil Conservation Service and in the Grand Pre area this type of drainage is also used. However there is a considerable variation in marsh soils and it is possible that in some areas the conventional narrow deep ditch will still be necessary. It is to be hoped that with the aid of a few progressive farmers who are presently trying out this method it will be possible to arrive at a satisfactory method of field drainage.

In the meantime most people are concentrating on getting their main outlets in shape. This work is done with a dragline. Unit costs are naturally high due to the fact that the volume of earth to be moved per foot of length is frequently small. A special machine to clean these smaller mains and larger laterals is one of the most pressing needs of the marsh drainage program. Various

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types of machines used for the cleaning and construction of irrigation ditches in the West have been investigated but most of these have been judged as unsuitable due to our soil conditions.

Into the Future!

The drainage and utilization phase of marshland rehabilitation must of necessity move at a rather slow pace due to a lack of knowledge as to the best course to follow and the limited capital available to the farmers for the construction of drains, the general improvement of the marsh and the purchase of foundation stock. However, a good start has been made, interest is high in most areas and time alone is needed to complete the task.

It is hoped that with the land protected from the ever present danger of flooding by the sea that a renewal of interest in these areas will result in their full use. In the meantime the Provincial Departments of Agriculture are studying the entire problem of utilization with a view to assisting in this program.

The Executive Committee of the International Cooperative Alliance met in Zurich, Switzerland last month to work out plans for promoting self-help, non-profit ventures in underdeveloped countries.

FARM FORUM

— NEWS and VIEWS —

National Farm Radio Forum Semi-Annual Meeting

Farm Forums across Canada are enjoying a good season. Reports presented by provincial delegates at the semi-annual meeting of National Farm Radio Forum show a further increase in the total number of groups. Figures for Quebec show 107 registered Farm Forums—up slightly over last year's total. The number of paid up memberships in Quebec Farm Forum Association has already passed last year's total with promise of going higher before the season ends.

Financing of farm forum at the national level was discussed in considerable detail. An invitation has been extended to several other national organizations to become additional sponsors of National Farm Radio Forum. Present sponsors are the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, the Canadian Federation of Agriculture and the Canadian Association for Adult Education.

National organizations contacted with a stake in rural adult education have been the Co-operative Union of Canada, the Agricultural Institute of Canada, the Dairy Farmers of Canada, and the Citizenship Branch of the Citizenship and Immigration Department. So far these attempts to gain wider support and backing as well as needed additional funds for National Farm Radio Forum have not been successful.

Board members, on hand from all parts of Canada, studied the financial position of the national office. They agreed that it might be necessary to institute a uniform system of Farm Forum financing across the country so far as member contributions are concerned. Some delegates suggested a standard \$3.00 family membership fee per family. This plan called for the contributions to be split half and half between the provincial and national offices to help finance services to the groups.

A new system for selecting topics for the 1955-56 season will be tried out this year. It is hoped that the new procedure will succeed in working up a program of topics for the next forum season that will be high in interest and stimulate good discussion in the forums.

It was pointed out that some farm forums seemed to put too much and others too little emphasis on recreational or social aspects. The board decided that no one suggestion or rule would apply to all forum groups as the decision must be left to the individual forum to make.

Prof. W. B. Baker of the University of Saskatchewan and Chairman of Saskatchewan's Royal Commission on Agriculture and Rural Life addressed the C.F.A. annual meeting stressing the value of a discussion program like National Farm Radio Forum to rural communities and farm organizations.



Left to Right (1) East Meets West — Glenn Smiley, Chairman of Alberta Farm Forum Council talks things over with Ralph MacKichan, Past President of Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture and Avery Duncanson from Gaspereau, N.S. (2) The C.F.A. has 3 women on its Board of directors for 1955. Mrs. N. R. Jasper, Delean, Manitoba; Mrs. Clarence Armstrong, Calgary, Alberta; Mrs. Gilbert Telford, Shawville, Quebec, who represents Eastern farm women. (3) Walter Hodgman, President of Quebec Farm Forum Association clears a point with Roy Grant, Moncton, N.B., Secretary of the Maritime Federation of Agriculture at the N.F.R.F. board meeting.

Farmers' Association Discussion

Approval for a proposal to establish a farm organization for English-speaking farmers of Quebec has been expressed by forty-five of the sixty-six Quebec Farm Forum groups which have reported on this topic, according to R. J. McDonell, secretary of Quebec Farm Forum Association.

Findings from the local Forums indicate that the majority of the groups reporting would agree that farmers see the need to become organized and with farm incomes falling are more likely to be willing to try to do something about it. Fourteen forums have expressed the need for further study before deciding to support or reject the proposal. Seven groups are opposed to the formation of a new farm organization.

Forty-four forums feel a Farmers' Association which represented a majority of Quebec's 10,000 English-speaking farmers would help the development of Farm

Forum. They agree that more people would be introduced to Farm Forum and the farm organization would provide a more effective means for action on studies conducted by the local groups. Eleven groups feel such a move might hinder Farm Forum as there would not be time or money to support two organizations. Ten forums have expressed no opinion or are sure of the effect.

Chief difficulty seen by twenty-two forums is the problem of getting a majority of English-speaking farmers to join the new organization.

As a high proportion of the local forums have yet to report their findings, the Provincial Farm Forum Council has recommended that further study be given by all 107 forum groups in the province before any further decision is made on organizing a Farmers' Association.

Dairy Farmers' Meeting

The annual meeting of the Dairy Farmers of Canada in Regina was attended by two delegates from the Quebec Farm Forum Association.

The Forum delegates as well as attending the general sessions, were present at the meetings of the concentrated milk, and the butter and cream commodity meetings.

Cheese importations, the 20 million pound butter surplus, and the continued threat to dairying of margarine, substitute dairy spreads, and synthetic dairy products was a major concern of all the dairy commodity groups.

The butter and cream group discussed the possible effect of a new substitute dairy spread being manufactured by some firms that make margarine in Ontario. This product is coloured yellow and is also sold legally in Quebec for less than 40¢ a pound. The spread is made with 8 percent whale or marine oil, refined animal fats, and skim milk. No vegetable oils are used in the new spread.

The cream producers recommended that the Dairy Farmers continue to assist member groups maintain provincial margarine bans. Where margarine and the new spread is sold every attempt should be made to ban the use of butter colour in the substitute products. It was suggested that the colour of butter should be standardized and no other product allowed to use it.

Another decision was to adopt an attractive bright yellow wrapping for butter. The new package would be designed to aid sales, better protect butter from odours, and prevent seeping of fats from the package at room temperature. New shipping containers for butter at a cost of 8¢ to 10¢ are being used to replace wooden boxes which cost 50¢ to 60¢ each. Wooden boxes often taint the butter.

The cream group recommended that the butter floor

price be set at 58¢ for a two year period. It was suggested that the present surplus of 22 million pounds of butter should be disposed of in the export market in a manner which will not reduce returns to producers.

The concentrated milk producers decided that vigorous action should be taken now on the New Zealand cheese imports. Unless vigorous action was taken, it was felt that other dairy products from low cost of production countries would soon come on our market. It was pointed out, as an example, that milk powder could be shipped into Canada for about half our price.

New concentrated milk products and milk powders came up for discussion. It was reported that these products easily mix with water and are ready for use instantly. The reconstituted milk has no cooked taste and is comparable to fluid milk in taste and quality. Three or four large companies are already producing these new milk products.

All dairy commodity groups—cheese, cream, concentrated, and fluid—agreed that a stepped-up advertising campaign; more research into new products, processing, and distribution; better merchandising and packaging methods; and a free school milk program on a national basis would all help stimulate consumption of dairy products.

The Dairy Farmers expressed their support for the freer and expanded trade policy of the International Federation of Agricultural Producers with respect to agricultural commodities and especially dairy products. But it was pointed out that little has been done to set up any workable plan. In view of this the Dairy Farmers found it necessary to seek protection from dairy imports so long as we have adequate supplies or surpluses here.



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

*Activities, Plans and Policies of the Quebec
Department of Agriculture*

Ayrshire Breeders Debate Constitution Changes

THE feelings of confusion that exist in the dairy industry these days seemed to pervade the annual meeting of the Canadian Ayrshire Breeders' Association held in Montreal on the 10th of February, and the delegates could not be described as being particularly happy about the progress of affairs in general.

The report of Secretary Hunt showed a drop in membership during 1954 of 120 to bring the total figure to 2214, distributed across the country as follows:

Quebec	901
Ontario	881
British Columbia	118
Nova Scotia	72
New Brunswick	69
Alberta	53
P.E.I.	65
Saskatchewan	29
Manitoba	23
Newfoundland	3

But during the year, 170 new members enrolled, which means that 290 former members severed their connection with the Association.

Registrations increased by 24 during the year for a new high total of 12,802, and it is interesting to note that 16.6% of these were calves resulting from artificial insemination. Transfers totalled 8,461 which was 894 more than in 1953. Exports were down 332, a total of 781 as against the 1953 total of 1,113. During the year 242 herds, representing 3,774 cows, were classified, 169 of them for the first time.

Expenses of operating the Association came to some \$5,000 more than its revenues, and this fact sparked a lively discussion on financing. In fact, the question of finance was pretty well woven into the whole fabric of the meeting. It will be remembered that a constitutional change was made effective in May 1953 that provided that no bull calf could be registered unless its dam was qualified under R.O.P., or could a bull calf be registered if its dam had not been classified, according to a change that took effect a year later. At last month's annual meeting a motion was put forward to have these two amendments repealed, and the arguments were many and varied on both sides.

Some members argued that the Association needs all the money it can get; if the present regulations remain in force, fewer bull calves will be registered, with a consequent drop in registration fees; therefore, breeders should be allowed to register their bull calves whether or not their dams are qualified and classified.

Others argued that registered bull calves, not subject to this regulation, may be bought outside Canada, and that this works a hardship on Canadian breeders who have bull calves to sell that are not eligible for registration. It was even suggested that the regulation should be applied to imports as well as to native stock, but this suggestion found little favour, since it is obvious that registration certificates must be honoured between countries if the whole import-export structure is not to fall apart.

Again on the repeal side it was argued that only 16% of Ayrshire breeders are on R.O.P., and that the regulation gives these breeders an unfair advantage over their competitors when selling to individuals who insist on buying registered stock.

To our mind, and to the mind of others in the meeting, these reasons were minor ones when compared with the actual purpose of the regulations, namely, a long-term scheme of eventual breed improvement. There are many good producers among all the Ayrshires in Canada—but there are also many others whose production records give nothing to crow about. The poorer part of the breed must be improved, and the use of good sires with a proven performance record behind them is one way of doing it. That was what was in the mind of those who framed the regulations in the first place, and apparently the idea was attractive when it was first put up to the members, for it went through them without a great deal of opposition.



A general view of the business session at the Canadian Ayrshire Breeders' Association annual meeting.

We are glad to report that the long-term view was taken by the members present at this meeting and by a vote of 78 to 50 the proposal to change the constitution in this regard was lost.

Other constitutional changes, of a less controversial nature, were proposed. One had to do with the method of sale and the price for the Herd Book, and the directors were authorized to sell them in whatever manner and for whatever price they deemed proper. But another, which provided for a reduction in the number of persons comprising the Executive Committee from seven to five (advanced in the interests of economy) was defeated; it seemed to be the opinion that it would be easier to get a quorum with a larger number of directors to call on.

Going back to the question of finance, another proposal was to increase membership fees to \$5.00, with a fee of \$8.00 for a member re-joining after having allowed his membership to lapse. After some argument, and counter-proposals, the general increase was approved, but it was not agreed that there should be an extra fee for re-joining. A member picking up a lapsed membership will pay the same fee as if he were joining for the first time. Increases in registration and transfer fees, as proposed by the Executive, were approved. Under the new schedule, the registration fee for females, if the request is filed within six months of birth, is \$2.50 for members and \$5.00 for non-members, with an extra charge of 50¢ per month for animals over six months old, the maximum both for members and non-members to be \$10.00. The initial fee for bulls is \$5.00 to members, \$10.00 to non-members, with the same extra cost for late filing. Transfer fees are \$3.00 if made within 30 days of sale, and 50¢ extra for each month or part of a month thereafter.

Award Winners

The organizers of the meeting produced no guest speaker for the luncheon part of the meeting but devoted the time to the presentation of bronze shields to the



Gilbert MacMillan (left) receiving a certificate of honorary life membership from past-president Berry.

owners of 14 production stars, and 56 certificates of long-time production. It was announced that 28 of these certificates went to Quebec breeders. Owners of the "production stars" were F. A. Hutton & Son, Streetsville, Ont., Maw Bros, Armstrong, B.C., University of British Columbia, G. Jeremy, Hawkestone, Ont., M. D. Carter, Aylmer, Ont., (who had two) Stansell Bros., Aylmer, Ont., (who had four), Wm. McFaul & Son, Sardis, B.C., Richards Bros., Red Deer, Alta., S. Smith & Sons, Wyoming, Ont. and J. W. Lewis, Freetown, P.E.I.

An item of business at the luncheon that brought approving applause from everyone was the presentation of an honorary life membership to Gilbert MacMillan, the president of and the Association's delegate to the Dairy Farmers of Canada. Mr. MacMillan brought no false optimism in his report to the Association from the Dairy Farmers. He admitted that all was not well in the dairy industry, though there had been no apparent decline in milk production in Canada despite the unfavourable summer weather. Cheese milk is selling at prices that do not make it economical to produce, and he felt that the cheese import policy was doing nothing to help the situation, which for that matter, extends to all milk prices. He saw no immediate solution and could only urge producers to do the best with what they have—land as well as stock.

On vote to elect six directors from Quebec, the following were chosen: Arthur Dagg, Roland Pigeon, J. G. Wilson, Nicolas Kelly, Alastair McArthur and J. P. Lizotte. Meeting the following day, the Board of Directors appointed Harry W. Boyes of Pickering, Ont. as the new president. Normally, vice-president John Ballantyne would have stepped up, but he asked that, for reasons of health, he be permitted not to assume the presidency. Col. Fred Andrew of Charlottetown was elected vice-president. The Executive Committee for 1955 will consist of the president and vice-president, past-president McKechnie, and directors Roland Pigeon, Nicholas Kelly, John McLennan and Alex Sutherland.

At the Seed Fair

The Compton County Seed and Forage Crop Fair is the only one of its kind in the province, and the fifth annual show went on as scheduled at Cookshire last month. But the exhibits showed the effects of the wet summer; there were fewer of them and in the grain classes especially quality was not up to the usual standard. Oats, for example, were dark and some samples were still damp.

Silage and hay, however, were of excellent quality, and to quote W. S. Richardson of the Lennoxville Experimental Farm, "A notable improvement is being made in the ensilage being shown here, and it is evident that the exhibitors are steadily gaining experience. This year's quality is very good". Grass and clover silage winners were I. Kirby, Cookshire; H. V. Burns, Island Brook and R. G. Hodge, Cookshire. In oat silage it was

Ray Waldron, East Clifton and the prizes for hay were won by L. Couture, Lennoxville, I. Kirby and W. Hodgman of Birchton.

The first prize oats, in contrast to others in the class, were plump and golden and scored an easy win over the darker second and third place samples. Winners were H. V. Burns; E. Bowker & Son, Flanders; E. A. Labonte, Birchton; L. Couture; Curtis Ross, Bulwer; R. G. Hodge.

Mixed grains were shown by L. Couture, H. V. Burns, W. Coates and R. G. Hodge, wheat by L. Couture and buckwheat by G. MacElrae. Competition was strong in the beans department with H. V. Burns taking first prize. Timothy prizes went to G. French, Sawyerville and R. G. Hodge, and red clover prizes went to L. Couture and H. V. Burns.

D. A. Fraser won firsts in the root crops with turnips and carrots, while G. MacElrae took first with his large, smooth mangels.

There was one entry of Reed Canary grass from the farm of Ray Waldron in East Clifton. He had cut the heads with scissors and threshed them by hand. Said Mr. Waldron "This seed is hard to harvest. There are only one or two days when the seed is ripe before it falls, and it shucks at the least motion, so machine harvesting can't be used."

Salon Scores Again

Mayor Drapeau officially opened the doors of the National Salon of Agriculture on February 17th, and for the third time the big show was thrown open to the public.

Originally planned as a means of bringing city folk up to date on what farmers do and what they do it with, the show has come a long way toward fulfilling its originators' hopes of making it a national exposition. Only three Canadian provinces were not represented with exhibits this year: Newfoundland, Manitoba and Ontario, though the Canada Department of Agriculture's display might be counted as originating in Ontario. All the other provinces had displays, or at least booths. Quebec, naturally, made the largest contribution, with Agriculture, Colonization, Trade and Commerce and Health each represented by elaborate set-ups. Nova Scotia featured its apples, and New Brunswick its potatoes. The City of Montreal proclaimed the week of February 17-24 as Agriculture Week, and gave a civic reception to mark the event.

The show itself was a huge one, larger than ever, and featured displays of practically everything that could possibly be imagined as being of interest to farmers; farm machinery of every conceivable kind, building materials, packaging equipment, feeds and fertilizers . . . we could continue the list indefinitely. There were more individual exhibitors, more space was devoted to agricultural firms this year as contrasted with those making goods of more general appeal; and a better arrangement of the exhibits made it easier to get around and see everything.

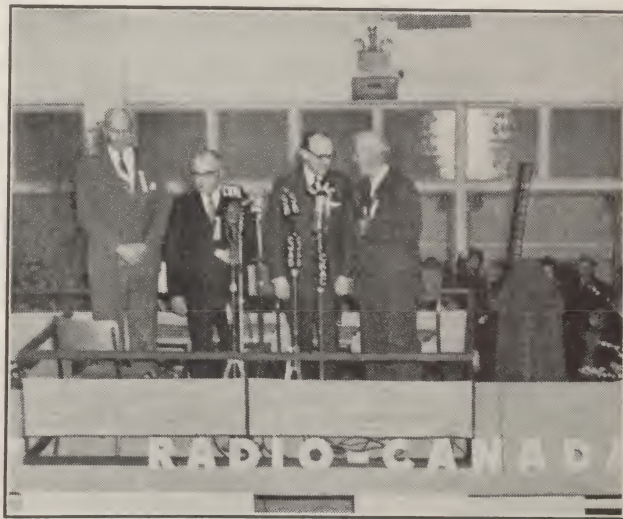
The potato exhibit interested the visitors to the Fair, especially the display of Canso prepared by Franklin Kerr of Island Brook. This bushel lot was very uniform in size, very white and smooth, and won the special prize. Other exhibitors of potatoes were E. Bowker & Son, L. Couture, G. MacElrae, E. A. Labonte and D. A. Fraser.

Juniors Had Their Day

The Fair was a busy place on the afternoon when the juniors came to judge seeds and crops. There were 45 participants in the 12 to 18 year group and 3 in the 18 to 25 year group. Theda Jackson won the Wallace Bros. special award with a score of 326 out of a possible 400, and Helen Cook, Betty Painter, Elaine Kerr and Bruce Kerr all had high scores in the judging competition.

In the senior class Frederick Burns, Ian Kirby and Leslie Young were the winners, Mr. Burns winning a water heater donated by the Southern Canada Power Co. for top scorer.

H. V. Burns is president of the Fair, with Col. W. Bishop as vice-president and W. Hodgman secretary. Agronomes MacMillan and Scott and the executive made a good team to whom the success of the Fair must be attributed.



Perched on top of the broadcasting booth, Mayor Drapeau (third from left) chats with Minister of Agriculture Barré just before declaring the Salon open. At left are Assistant Deputy Minister of Agriculture Chagnon and Gustave Toupin, President of the Salon.

The heavy machinery was mostly concentrated in the center of the hall while other exhibits were arranged around the outside. Even so, there were four aisles, lined with exhibits on each side, and in that big hall, four times around means a lot of walking. However, nobody seemed to mind that, for the crowds that turned out were enormous.

The Salon coincided with a number of farmers' meetings in Montreal, which helped to swell the attendance from outside the city; people who would not have come

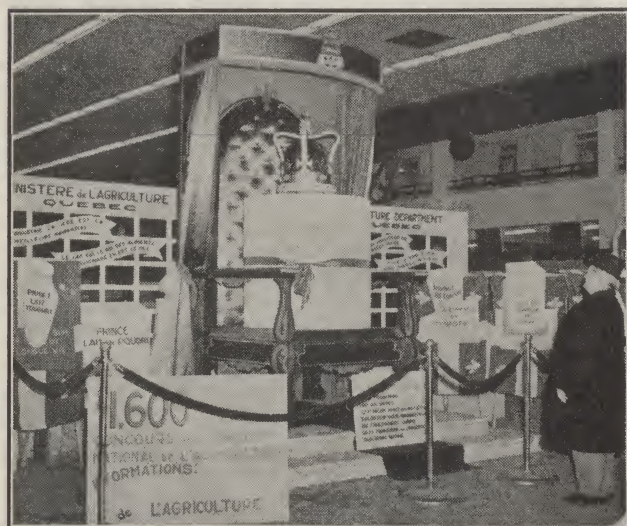
into Montreal just for the Salon found it convenient to combine the two events.

Livestock Popular

Whereas the farm folk probably spent most time in front of the industrial exhibits, the people from the city were obviously interested in the "live" exhibits, of which there were more this year. Livestock was on display both on the main floor and in the basement. On the main floor were the dairy cattle; Ayrshire, Holstein, Canadian and Jersey; Belgian, Percheron and Canadian horses, and hogs and sheep. In the basement was a herd of Aberdeen Angus beef cattle, plus a good display of rabbits and poultry.

Many a Montreal youngster probably got his first sight of a cow, a horse or a sheep at the Show Mart, and likely most of them had never seen a cow milked before. But there it was being done, twice a day, right before their eyes. Christmas dinners just out of the shell were padding around in wire-floored cages, and we cannot help but wonder how many youngsters went away from the show thinking that baby chicks are green or pink when they hatch.

A touch of summer was injected by the display of the Montreal Parks Department, situated just at the entrance and featuring an elaborate display of flowering tulips set in a typical Dutch landscape complete with windmill, rustic bridges, lakes and streams. The exhibit of the Colonization Department, easily the largest individual one there, featured a huge landscape to show how a farmer with four sons to settle, divided his holdings so that each could have a just share of the paternal acres. The back of the display was devoted to photographs of successful colonizers of the past few years. The Federal Department of Agriculture featured poultry products, while the Provincial Department of Agriculture stressed the dairy industry and its importance to Quebec economy.



The Department of Agriculture's exhibit enthroned a huge cheese, surrounded by other dairy products.

Apple Meeting Was Well Attended

For once, the roads weren't all blocked just when the Quebec Pomological Society was holding its annual winter meeting, and the crowd attending was one of the largest for a long time. As usual, everyone attended the opening business sessions when the financial statement (it showed a profit) was approved and various committees were set up. Next came a forum discussion on orchard protection with Dr. Thomas Simard as Chairman and R. Desmarteau, A. A. Beaulieu, L. Cinq Mars, R. Lorquet and F. Godbout as the panel of experts. The rest of the meetings, except, of course, the annual banquet, were held in two sections, one English and one French, where the same papers were presented, the only difference being the language in which each was given.

These papers dealt with various technical aspects of apple growing, and inasmuch as they are of interest primarily to apple growers, and since each will be published later and distributed to the members of the Society, they will not be reviewed here. Dr. M. Szkolnik of the Geneva Experiment Station discussed new trends in scab control, with particular reference to eradicant and protective sprays. Dr. A. B. Burrell, a frequent and very welcome visitor to Pomological Society meetings, described, with Kodachrome slides, apple, pear and peach growing in the Northwestern States, particularly in Washington, giving a talk that was much enjoyed by everyone. Dr. Hill, the recently-appointed Dominion Horticulturist, spoke on orchard fertilization with particular reference to diagnosis through leaf analysis, and Don Blair dealt with pruning practices. Floyd Stevenson took on the subject of power pruning and the use in orchards of the roto-beater, and Bill Tawse was his usual forceful self when talking of producer-retailer relations.

The publicity campaign, on which \$8000 was spent last year, again met with favourable comments, and it was decided to continue in 1955, and to try once again to get a better response to the appeal for a contribution of 1 cent per bushel from the growers to apply against the cost of the campaign. Few individuals, and only some of the co-operatives, have contributed to the 1954 fund, it was pointed out.

While the men were getting the business of the day out of the way, the ladies went on a tour, braving the wet roads and streets to visit the Salada Tea Company plant, and to the Fry Cadbury establishment as guests of these companies and of the Independent Grocers' Association (IGA). A most interesting and satisfactory day was reported by all.

President Beaudin, speaking at the banquet, reviewed some of the things the Society had done on behalf of the members during the year. In addition to its usual services, a brief had been prepared for submission to the

Heon Commission, which had suggested a number of items that, if adopted, would be of value to apple growers. These included; research on later varieties of apples and research on packaging; a resolution asking that the sale of apple cider be legalized; a request for uniform grading regulations for the whole country, and control of roadside stands; a request to the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Trade and Commerce for publicity in favour of apples; a request for statutory grants for the construction of cold storage plants.

Thanks were expressed to the Quebec Department of Agriculture for financial assistance to set up and equip a booth at the Salon of Agriculture, as well as for its annual grant on the basis of membership.

Marc Hudon, bringing the president's talk to the French-speaking members, elaborated a little on the marketing question, quoting from published figures which demonstrate what the purchaser looks for, or sees, when shopping in a big store. He felt strongly that apples are losing out to other fruits and pointed out that consumers won't buy what isn't in front of them, attractively packaged and of good quality. We must do everything possible to keep apples available in the stores at all times. He also pointed out that almost a quarter of all apples picked never reach the consumer but are lost somewhere along the way. This is a terrific loss which should be corrected; there is nothing like this loss even with perishable products such as grapes and bananas. He also had words of praise for the Department of Agriculture for its stricter application of the grading regulations.

Minister of Agriculture Barre admitted that sales are the present pressing problem, not production, but our seven co-operative storage plants are doing a fine job in spreading out the crop year. Government regulations won't sell apples — that is a job that must be done by the apple growers themselves.

The resolutions committee brought in several suggestions, all of which were approved after some discussion in a couple of cases. It was suggested that it would be a good thing if growers could be kept advised of world market conditions, though just how this would be done was not made clear. Leaf analysis for determination of fertilizer requirements has caught the fancy of the growers, and the Quebec Department was asked to do whatever it could to help with this work. The Department was also asked to try to find some source of dolomitic limestone that could be had at reasonable cost to correct acidity and the rather wide-spread magnesium deficiency in Quebec orchard soils. The Society also protested officially about the recent increase in stall rental charges on the Montreal public markets. A resolution asking that the 3 and 5 pound transparent bag for apples be designated a closed container and made a legal package. The designation "closed container" implies that the weight must be printed on the package—a guide to buyers.

Minister of Agriculture Barre was asked to designate the "junior box" as a legal container. Apples for the Kiwanis apple sale, which were supplied again this year by the Society, are sold in these boxes, and for similar purposes these packages are very satisfactory. Mr. Barre was also asked to name a committee composed of representatives of all interested groups to push the construction of the new Montreal market, the idea being that this committee might be able to make suggestions, while plans are still being drawn for the new market, that would prevent mistakes that might be costly or impossible to correct later.

Father Fernand and Gaetan Baillargeon were re-elected to the board of directors, and in the group of special directors Gordon Thomson replaced his father, Gustave Doyon replaced B. Riendeau, and Charlie Petch replaced Roswell Thomson on the spray committee.

Barley Winners Named

Winners in the 1954 edition of the National Barley Contest were proclaimed recently, and the first prize was awarded to Alpherie Beaulieu of Ste. Martine. In second place was Rene Telle, St. Remi, third went to J. A. Coutu, Ste. Elizabeth, fourth to Raoul Hebert, St. Bruno and fifth to the Agricultural Orphanage at Cedars.

There were 209 entrants, but only 99 of them managed to get their samples into the finals. When the fields were inspected during the summer 49 were rejected, and 61 others were rejected when the samples were first judged, in the 40 bushel lots.

Weather conditions during the summer were in the main responsible for this state of things, stated Andre Auger, director of the contest; nevertheless, in spite of this the crop was far better than it had been in the years before this contest sparked an interest in improving locally-grown barley.

The Barley Improvement Institute, the Quebec Brewers' Association and the federal and provincial Departments of Agriculture all co-operate in making these contests possible, the object being to secure better yields of barley which is suitable for malting. The Fields Crops Service of the Department of Agriculture has some very interesting figures which indicate a tremendous improvement both in quality and in yield of this grain in Quebec in recent years. Last year's crop suffered, along with all others, from the weather, but of the 99 samples which got into the finals, 58 graded No. 1, 23 No. 2, and 12 No. 3, while 6 were rejected.

While making these awards, Mr. Auger took advantage of the occasion to make presentations to other champion growers; to Charles A Rivard of St. Simon who took the world championship for timothy at the Royal last November; to his son Donat, who took third prize for timothy, and to his brother Jean Marie, who had second prize.

The Federee's Best Year

THE Co-operative Federee, the country's largest French-Canadian business organization, reported a gross business of just over \$60,000,000 at its annual meeting held in Montreal on February 2nd, with a sales volume larger than in any of its previous 33 years. Net profits available for patronage dividends were an impressive \$496,978. In the past 20 years, according to the report, the Federee has enabled its member co-operatives to make savings of over \$5,000,000; and the local co-operative, through use of the co-operative formula, have made actual savings for their members of some \$10,000,000, and possibly more if one takes into consideration the impact of their competition on general trade.

During these 20 years the Federee has returned no less than \$3,600,000 to its affiliated co-ops in patronage dividends, and of this about one-third has been loaned back to the central body.

These are large sums, but they represent only one side of the picture. The co-operative formula has, in the opinion of those administering the Federee, been the saving of the French-Canadian farmer. Particularly in the past ten years the farmer has been seeking means of achieving better economic security. He has asked for government support; in many cases he has successfully looked after the marketing of his main products himself (and has been astounded at the difference between the price he receives and the price the consumer pays). In the past twenty-five or thirty years, conditions have changed radically. Higher investments on the farm and new social needs have forced the farmer to tend to mass production; in other words, to live on an exchange basis by trying to produce what is best suited to his own conditions, to sell direct whenever possible, to use expensive machinery wisely and to improve his farming technique.

On the consumer side, the development of marketing centres and the increase in the purchasing power of urban

people have imposed additional tasks and have led to new costs. In the United States, and probably in Canada as well, more men are engaged in the assembling, grading, transportation, storing, etc. of farm products than there are farmers growing these products. The result is an increased demand, a better availability of products throughout the year, a considerable reduction in waste and an increase in the volume of products of high quality offered to the public.

In Quebec our farm production is diversified. Milk or cream is sold as such to the consumer, or delivered to butter, cheese, milk powder or condensed milk plants. Surplus livestock goes to slaughter houses. Hogs, eggs, poultry and plant products (potatoes, tobacco, vegetables, fruit, etc.) are sold. In most cases the quantity of these various products is not sufficient to warrant the purchase of machinery or the building of plants that would enable the individual farmer to offer the consumer the products he wants, where and when he wants them.

This multiplicity of rather small quantities of various products, available at different times during the year, must be gathered together at a given point, whether in the country or in the city, for grading, packaging and distribution. For all these services to function well, it is necessary that those engaged in the progress have an incentive. It is also necessary for the management to assume certain risks—risks in storage, in loss of weight or quality, or loss in market value if prices fall. There is interest on the money invested, insurance, taxes, etc. Then, in the marketing of certain products, meat for example, large investments of capital are required for the slaughtering, trimming and smoking processes as well as storage.

In every one of these services, the maximum of economy and service is the goal. This is why our farmers want to perform these services themselves, and that has sparked the large network of co-operatives that we find all through this province. The democratic control that exists in co-operatives, the facility of learning by attendance at members' or directors' meetings, the search for new methods and techniques; in short, the progress assured by co-operatives in production, marketing and service to the consumer is all in the general interest. To quote the general manager, the co-operative movement makes our farmers masters of their own destiny.

Milk and Meat

President J. A. Pinsonneault stated that in 1955 milk and meat would receive special attention on the part of the Federee. He reminded the meeting that one of the affiliates, the Granby Co-operative, has just built a new milk processing plant and has introduced the "continuous" butter making process into Quebec. The Co-operative Federee, already the owner of two packing plants, one



Some of the head table guests: H. H. Hannam, H. C. Bois, René Paré, J. A. Pinsonneault.

at Princeville and one in Quebec West, has purchased a third, located in Quebec City, and all affiliated co-ops were urged to do their business through one of these three plants.

"In 1955", he went on to say, "we will have to intensify our efforts, both on our own farms and in our co-operatives. Production costs must be cut down, and this can be achieved only with loyal co-operation from everyone, and with the constant use of the best management methods. Even if present conditions seem doubtful, we may look to the future with feelings of optimism."



President J. A. Pinsonneault presents a 25-year pin to Mr. Romuald Belzile.

General Manager Henri C. Bois also had some comments on the orientation of efforts in 1955 toward milk and meat. He pointed out that there is no use starting a new enterprise unless the farmer will get from it the best possible service at the lowest possible cost; but to achieve this, in the case of the meat processing service, it is of the utmost importance that the farmers use the co-operative plants so that they will have enough volume to enable them to work efficiently. The purchase of the new Quebec plant rounds out the Federee's set-up for meat processing and provides services that were lacking when only Quebec West and Princeville were in operation. J. A. Courteau will be in over-all charge of the three plants, and he explained the services that would be available, giving also some estimates of cost figures at each plant. He prophesied that before too long the Federee would be setting meat prices in Quebec. Other department managers also reported on their activities during the year.

At the luncheon session H. H. Hannam brought greetings from the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, as did Gilbert MacMillan from the Dairy Farmers of Canada. Another guest speaker was Rene Pare, President of La Societe des Artisans and of the Conseil de la Cooperation du Quebec. A feature of this part of the meeting was the presentation of 25-year pins to three long-time co-operators: Benjamin Bourgault, director of the seeds division,

Romuald Belzile, manager of the Quebec branch, and Mendoza Henri of the Montreal Office.

This was an enthusiastic meeting and one that taxed the accommodations even of such a large hotel as the Mount Royal. There must have been about 1500 delegates at the business meetings; and the sale of banquet tickets had to be stopped at 750 for the largest available dining room could hold no more. Many would-be banqueters never got near the dining room. And the meetings were beautifully organized; all the reports were given at the scheduled times, there was plenty of time for discussion on all points, and all the sessions began and ended at the hour they were supposed to. The delegates obviously appreciated this, and they indicated that they were satisfied with the way the Federee is being run by re-electing the whole board of directors.

Quebec Bee-Keepers Meet

Quebec bee-keepers turned out in large numbers last month for their annual meeting. With President Bosse in the chair, they spent a profitable two days renewing old friendships and listening to experts in various fields of the business describe new techniques and methods in bee-keeping. Speakers included J. H. Lavoie, Director of the Horticulture Service, Jules Methot, chief of the Bee Division, S. M. Deschenes, assistant chief, as well as several apiculturists who told of their experiences in their own apiaries. For example, Father Seraphin discussed the production of comb honey, Henri Plourde talked on wintering of bees, and Bernard Baril described bee-keeping in the Lower St. Lawrence region.

The resolution committee did a lot of work and brought in a large number of recommendations. The Provincial Government was asked for a number of services. To begin with, a grant of at least \$1000 was asked for so that some good bee-keeper in the St. Hyacinthe area could set up a modern establishment that could be a demonstration plant for the bee-keepers of the district. Since many people are allergic to bee stings and become quite ill when stung, the Government was asked to try to find suitable medicines or drugs that would prevent these violent reactions. It was also thought that the Government might be able to provide coloured advertising cards to help honey sales. Strict enforcement of the regulations governing apple tree spraying to prevent killing of bees was asked for, as usual, and the Federal Government was asked to institute research at the Experimental Farm at Normandin to determine whether it is better to over-winter bees, or to destroy the colonies in the fall and start with new ones each spring. This subject, by the way, was hotly discussed for almost half a day, and it was evident that there was a great difference of opinion among the bee-keepers as to which method is best.

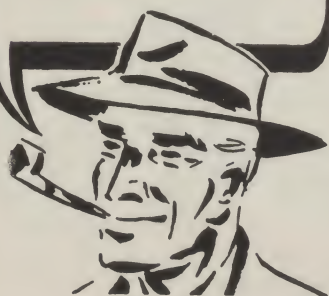
Elections resulted in the return of all the officers of the Association for another term.

Dear Readers:

As I hooked back the storm door this morning I noticed a change in the air. Instead of greeting my sense of smell with frosty prickles, it invited me to breath deeply. So I stood on the doorstep and filled my lungs with the tonic of spring air it told me that the Balm of Gilead's sap was awakening in its roots and had started to flow toward the branches. The spicy fragrance of the evergreens in the hedgerow told of new growth soon to be starting there, and there was new life in the willows down by the pond. The morning's stillness was broken by the drip, drip of sap from the maple shade trees, falling into the new aluminum buckets. "Caw, caw" came from the pasture. The realization finally dawned on me. "It's spring!" So I went into the house refreshed and sprinkled water on the unfolding leaves of the little tomato plants.

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544

The celery plants are peeking over the edge of their box, and there are seven double petunias and several single ones up. I like petunias because they will keep right on blooming even if you neglect them, and they look just about as well whether they are in the window boxes or in the rock garden.

For the rock garden there are pansies and ageratum. Pansies, because they bloom all year round, and ageratum for its mass of colour. I've planted a rock garden perennial mixture too. It is as good as any game guessing what each seedling is. I need some large flat stones too. I've placed some, but they look awfully small from the road. The bay window is filled to overflowing with seedlings. How handy a little greenhouse would be now!

The horses are home from their winter's work in the woods. They are sleek and shining though they have lost some weight. Their next job, as soon as the snow goes down and before the ground thaws is to haul out the manure. We've tried hauling with the tractor but spent most of the time stuck at the pile, so we've gone back to horses. We couldn't

spread on the new seedling last fall, as is our usual practice, because the ground was so wet.

The Farm Forum broadcasts will soon be over. Does your Forum have something special to finish up their winter's work on? For several years our season's guest speakers were invited back to enjoy a banquet with us, at which we serve baked salmon or ham. Last year Mr. Hodgman and Keith Russell came and added considerably to the evening's enjoyment. After a few *short* speeches and friendly conversation we finished off the evening with folk dancing.

One of our guests was the Secretary of our County School Board. He had explained taxes and school costs to us at a Forum meeting and had cleared up several misunderstandings between the public and the School Board; he also told us something about where our school tax money goes. Some evening soon we expect to have the Supervisor at a meeting.

We've just come back from the seed fair at Cookshire. It was smaller than last year, due to the poor crop season last summer, but the exhibits were of good quality in spite of the conditions under which they had

grown. The first prize lot of oats were full kernalled and golden, but the second and third prize lots were dark as if the weather had affected them.

The hay crops were of excellent green colour; the silage was of very good quality and there were several exhibits of it. I didn't notice any corn silage—it is losing out to grasses, as they are surer crop possibilities in this district. Each year silage is gaining in popularity and quality as we learn how to care for it and share our knowledge with our neighbours.

There was a bushel of the most beautiful potatoes I have ever seen. They were of the Canso variety—white and all exactly the same size. They won a special prize for Franklin Kerr of Island Brook.

We got a prize on timothy and learned that it still contained some weed seeds; should have had more cleaning, should have been cut nearer the heads to avoid weed seed, and contained some sorrel seed, which indicates that the land would benefit from liming.

The speakers and judges all encouraged us to (a) take our seed to a cleaning plant, (b) give half-pound samples to our agronomer for a germination test, (c) let our idle fanning mills remain idle.

All in all it was a good fair and I enjoyed it immensely.

Have you finished up your winter's jobs yet? I made soap and corned beef today. The hired man said I

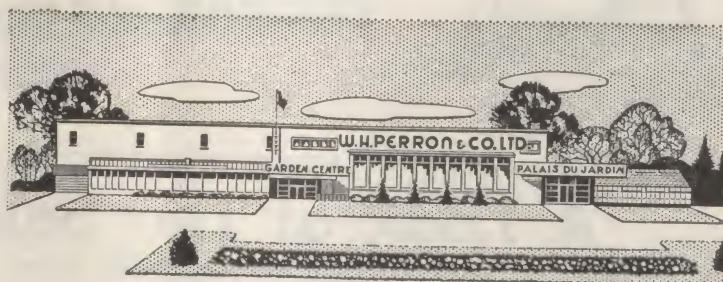
could expect "Jiggs" around for dinner any time now.

Sincerely,

Wally.

The Clarence Goodhue Memorial Trophy

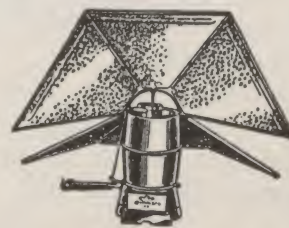
Mr. William Hodge has donated a silver rose bowl as a trophy in memory of the late Clarence Goodhue, for many years manager of Raymondale Farm, and an outstanding figure during his lifetime in the Holstein world. This trophy is to be awarded each year to the champion Holstein showman at the Macdonald College Royal, and the first winner was Miss Mary Lou Black of Picton, Ont., a second year student in Household Science whose farm background enabled her to win over more than thirty other contestants. Our photo shows Mr. Hodge presenting the trophy to Miss Black.



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THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES SECTION

*Devoted to the activities of the Quebec Institutes
and to matters of interest to them*

A Look at The Semi-Annual

by Angela W. Evans

INDICATIVE of the widening scope and growth of the Quebec Women's Institutes was the heavy agenda of the semi-annual meeting of the Q.W.I. Provincial Board, which was held at the Y.W.C.A., Montreal, Jan. 21-22. All members of the executive were present, one convenor was absent through illness, and only one county was not represented.

Mrs. LeBaron, North Hatley, provincial president, extended a cordial welcome and urged that thoughtful deliberation be given to the many important matters on the agenda. The appreciation of the members of the executive for the many greetings received during the holidays was voiced. "They give one a warm glow", said Mrs. LeBaron.

Regret was expressed over the illness of a good friend, Mme LeBeau, who for several years has attended the mid-winter and annual meetings, bringing greetings from the Department of Agriculture. A written message was read at this point. Interested in the work of the Q.W.I., Mme LeBeau has always made a valuable contribution to these meetings and given much encouragement.

Council of Women

The highlight of the sessions was another joint conference with the Montreal Council of Women. This meeting was co-chaired by their president, Mrs. H. F. Reusing and Mrs. Harvey, 1st vice-president Q.W.I. Others attending from the Council were Miss Joan Gilchrist, Legislation; Mrs. H. S. Morton, Civil Defence; Mrs. W. R. Abbott, Education; Mrs. Sparrow, Public Health; and Mrs. Reid.

The first item on the conference agenda was the legal status of married women in Quebec. The discussion was opened by Mrs. G. Cooke, Q.W.I. treasurer, Miss Gilchrist reviewed the latest legislation regarding married women, and said that women could only keep "hammering away" until they obtained the results they wanted. The procedure necessary to get family maintenance from a husband who had left Quebec for other provinces was explained. The present set-up is very expensive and not too satisfactory.

Crime Comics, another topic of mutual interest and concern was discussed. It was recommended that news stands be constantly watched and undesirable literature reported to local magistrates. The responsibility of parents

to provide attractive and good reading material was pointed out.

Help for the mentally retarded but educable child was discussed. Mrs. Leggett, Welfare and Health convenor, spoke of the work being done in Lachute. A local association has been formed which has organized a class of six children ranging from 5-16 years. Financial assistance was obtained from the School Board for the teacher's salary and a place was found to hold the class, with the upkeep provided by local organizations. "Contact and interest the parents", said Mrs. Leggett, and urged that other communities try to make a beginning in this way. Mrs. Sparrow spoke of the Brief on this problem recently submitted to the Protestant Committee.

Civil Defence

The Question of Civil Defence was raised by Mrs. Ossington, Citizenship convenor, who felt that Disaster Relief should be included in the former heading. She also mentioned the Civil Defence courses that are held at Arnprior. Mrs. Morton stressed the part that would need to be played by rural women and spoke of the Welfare Centres, which "work from the common sense angle of giving what is needed first and gather statistics later".

Pasteurization of all dairy products came in for its full share of interest. Mrs. Leggett spoke of a Provincial Health regulation, enacted in March, 1954, requiring all milk, cream, or milk beverages sold or consumed in a public place be pasteurized. Again it was stressed that the consumer should always demand pasteurized dairy products.

The condition of the Protestant Women's Jail has long been a matter of concern. The Q.W.I. lends ready support to all efforts being made by the Council to effect the needed reforms.

In closing the Conference the Q.W.I. president, Mrs. LeBaron, said "when women work together they are a great power". The Council president, Mrs. Reusing, concurred, stating, "It is good for all of us to be working together".

The system for pooling of fares will go into effect this year. This should make for greater branch representation at the June convention, which will be held during the last week of June 28-30. The annual board meeting is the preceding day, June 27th.

Prizes for the Tweedsmuir Competition, on the provincial level, will be awarded at the convention. These will be money prizes for this year but discussion will be held in June as to the form for future contests.

Branches are urged to keep histories up to date. It was noted that not half of the branches have sent their histories to the office. It is hoped all will attend to this important duty. Even disbanding branches are asked to send all past and present information, pertinent to their history, to the Q.W.I. office.

A directive had been prepared on the duties and procedure of the provincial nominating committee. A modified form, for use of county and branch, is now being drawn up.

Members asked to check the date of handbooks being used. They should show 1949 or 1953 (The contents are the same, the latter a reprint).

If a branch or individual member bought UNICEF Christmas cards this should be reported to Mrs. Ossington, Citizenship convenor. An accurate figure is needed for publicity purposes.

Leadership Course

An outline was given of the program planned for the Leadership Training Course. This will be held May 23-27. The two popular classes, Music in Your Programs and New Life for Your Programs, are being retained, also Recreation. Particulars of the course, with application forms, will be sent out in March. Miss Janet McOuat, recently appointed Handicraft Technician, was introduced. Miss McOuat spoke briefly of the busy schedule already drawn up for the forthcoming year and reported giving three cooking schools. Millinery, by popular demand, has been added to the list of available courses.

A splendid report of the June to December, 1954, schedule of Miss Hasel was read. (Miss Hasel returned to her home in the west at the end of the year). In all 351 articles were made. Several counties held highly successful workshops. Wherever feasible this plan for making a variety of courses available is recommended.

Junior Institutes

The new Junior Supervisor, Mrs. Roberta Ridley Cameron, gave a report of the meeting of Junior Counsellors held prior to the board meeting. Plans for the coming season were outlined and will include a rally in the summer. Mrs. Bernhardt, Athelstan, spoke of the enthusiasm of the Juniors in her county and the success of the costume jewellery-making course. Other projects reported were felt skirts, shell and leather work and good grooming. Mention was made of the first prize won by the Bury JWI for their float in the July 1st parade.

The type of motion required when applying for life memberships was discussed. A form, prepared by Mrs. Cooke, was approved and copies will be distributed to

each branch, one per member. (Put in your Handbooks for safe keeping).

Mrs. Turner, Sherbrooke County president, gave a vivid report of the Rural's Women's Day at Quebec, Sept. 7th, 1954. The 38 invitations issued to Q.W.I. members were happily accepted. "The grounds were a veritable fairy-land", said Mrs. Turner. "As we entered them lights spelled out 'Hommage à la femme rurale!' which was the theme of everything we saw". The beauty of the handicrafts display and the work of Les Cercles de Fermière were described. The dairy products captured their interest too. The day was climaxed by a banquet for about 500 persons. Contexts of the many speeches gave all a glimpse of the significance of this great privilege.

Active interest and steady progress was evidenced by comments made by all convenors of Standing Committees. A plea was made for more pictures for the Journal, with the reminder that "one picture equals a thousand words", as a publicity agent.

RESOLUTIONS: Two counties had sent in resolutions. These related to Crime Comics and Enforcement of Traffic Laws and were held over for the annual meeting. A resolution, sponsored by the Montreal Council of Women on an amendment to the Succession Duties Act (Federal) was approved and is being sent by all county presidents to their respective Members of Parliament. Another Council resolution, Family Welfare Courts, was also approved but no action taken.

AFFILIATED SOCIETIES: Mrs. LeBaron touched on some of the high points of ACWW executive meetings during the past six months. The ACWW is asking for suggestions for a theme for the Ceylon Conference to be held next year. These should be sent to the Q.W.I. office.

Activities of the Montreal Council of Women had been covered by the joint conference, Mrs. Harvey felt, so no report was needed at this time. The Canadian Association of Consumers (Quebec English Branch) and Canadian Handicraft Guild were mentioned briefly. In regard to the former, some discussion was held on a proposed Government subsidy on milk for school children.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES: These were appointed by the president, Mrs. LeBaron. The Nominating Committee is Rouville (Miss H. Buzzell) chairman, Stanstead (Mrs. E. Woodard) and Papineau (Mrs. R. Johnson). The Resolutions Committee consists of: Vaudreuil (Mrs. E. G. Prinn) Argenteuil (Mrs. M. H. Crosby) and Chat-Huntingdon (Mrs. W. E. Bernhardt).

In closing, Mrs. LeBaron expressed the appreciation of the executive for the attentive co-operation during all sessions, and stressed the important role of the provincial board. "We (the executive) are the match", she said, "You are the strike, without which there can be no fire of enthusiasm".

The Month With the W.I.

Not many reports this month—could it be February storms? There is no chilling of enthusiasm, though, in the ones that did come in, packed to the brim with worthwhile programs and projects.

Argenteuil: *Arundel* observed a two minute silence in memory of Mrs. Sidney Swail Sr. The new exhibits list for the School Fair was read and two applications for the 1955 scholarship were reported. The executive entertained the members with contests and refreshments. The branch is holding a sewing bee every Friday afternoon. *Frontier* heard a talk on "The Making of Wills and Succession Duties", by Mr. E. T. Beaudoin, N.P., Lachute. A donation of \$100 was voted the Mentally Retarded Children Fund (a district project) and \$5 to the Montreal Children's Hospital. A fine report of the Red Cross work was given. *Jerusalem-Bethany* had a talk by the county president, Mrs. M. H. Crosby. Travel films were shown by Mr. J. MacKinnie. Talent money was handed in for the treasury, another quilt made for the Red Cross and linen donated to the Cancer Society. At *Lachute* Mrs. G. P. Hedges, Commissioner Quebec Division of the Red Cross, gave a talk on "Disaster Preparedness and Relief". Several *Brownsburg* members and Red Cross visitors were present. A reading was given on "Largactel", the newly discovered drug for mental illness. *Lakefield* donated \$5 to the Lachute High School Annual. Two contests were held and prizes given to the winners. *Mille Isles* heard an article "Rural Women and Urban Women Exchange Ideas at Q.W.I.", read by the president. A donation of \$5 was voted the Montreal Children's Hospital. *Morin Heights* members decided to raise \$2 annually to help branch funds. Representatives of the W.I. attended the School Board meeting and inspected the school. *Upper Lachute* and *East End* had an exchange of valentines among the members in which favorite recipes were enclosed. Two contests were held, one a novel one on "Lachute Streets". Two quilts have

been made for the Red Cross and \$5 given to the Lachute High School Year Book.

Bonaventure: *Black Cape* members enjoyed a "Who Am I" quiz. *New Richmond* welcomed a new member. Plans were made for a First Aid Course, and a class by the Q.W.I. Technician. *Port Daniel* heard a talk on "Accidents In The Home", by Mrs. J. Journeau, convenor of Welfare and Health. A donation was given the Q.W.I. Service Fund and a *Tweedsmuir History* has been started. A two minutes silence was observed in memory of a departed life member, Mrs. F. LeGallais. *Restigouche* provided a number of children with treats and offered prizes to pupils of local schools who have shown the greatest improvement during the term. A course in Crocheting has been chosen.

Compton: *Brookbury* made donations to the Sunday School, needy children and hot lunches at Bishopton School. *Canterbury* sent gifts to a Military Hospital. *East Clifton* held a successful paper drive. A reading was given on "The Duties of Officers". *East Angus* also reports a paper drive, adding \$40 to the funds. The branch is paying for cocoa being served at school. *Cookshire* heard two talks, "The Archives at Ottawa" and "The Brome County Historical Museum at Knowlton". A book, "India and the Awakening East", by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, is being circulated among the members. A donation was given to the "Cookshire" room at the Wales Home. *Sawyerville* had a program of films: The Mission Ship, Each Man's Son, The Honest Truth, Royal Visit to New Zealand, and Pole Barns and Milking Parlours. *Scotstown* sent gifts to the Wales Home. A "Know Your Institute", contest was held.

Gatineau: *Aylmer East* had talks on ways in which to interest all members in W.I. work, followed by group discussion. An impromptu debate, "We Need Recreation", rounded out the practical program. Catering to Hunt Club banquet aided branch funds. *Eardley* had a paper on "Poliomyelitis" and "A Recipe for a Happy New Year". *Kazabazua* members entertained their husbands and con-



Members of Warden W.I. take a last look at their Tweedsmuir quilt. This won first place in the provincial contest (1953) and was sold, the proceeds going to the Sweetsburg Hospital for a croupette. Mr. Sharp, president of the Hospital is admiring it. The Warden W.I. president, Mrs. Hanna, is fifth from the left in front row.



Mrs. Sicard, treasurer, presents the cheque for \$150 to Mr. Sharp.

tests were enjoyed. A purchase of 40 tooth brushes was made for the Queen Elizabeth School. *Lower Eardley* heard items from the various convenors. At *Wright* the Citizenship convenor, Mrs. R. Derby, gave a paper on Ceylon, reminding members to make a study of this country before the ACWW Conference in 1956. A quiz on Ceylon was held with prizes. *Wright* will again help *Kazabazua* with the School Fair.

Missisquoi: *Cowansville* presented the annual scholarship to a Grade IX pupil in *Cowansville High School*. The Education convenor, Mrs. W. Leonard, gave a talk describing her trip to England and Scotland this past summer. Several members hope to obtain pen-pals in other countries. *Dunham* entertained new Canadians, three countries represented, Holland, Belgium, and Czechoslovakia. *Fordyce* had as guest speaker, Mrs. K. Winsor, *Cowansville*, who told of her trip through Southern Europe last summer. Several members are knitting baby garments for the local hospital.

Papineau: *Lochaber* heard the history of their Institute, from the first meeting up to date. The Welfare and Health convenor read a paper on "Mental Health Program", and proper food for dental health was discussed. Linens were brought in for the Cancer Society. A report of the semi-annual was read and discussed.

Rouville: *Abbotsford's* program was in charge of Mrs. F. Crossfield, convenor of Agriculture, with the theme the Q.W.I. Brief to the Heon Commission. A paper prepared by Mrs. R. Thomson for a meeting of the CAC re this Brief was read by Mrs. Crossfield as an introduction to the panel discussion which followed. Producers, retailers and consumers were represented and keen interest was shown in the discussions.

Shefford: *Granby Hill* heard reports of the semi-annual and the proposed workshop. A case of soup was given the *Granby High School*. Linen is being collected for the Red Cross and used stamps are being sent to the Junior Red Cross at the *Granby School*. A white elephant sale brought \$5.50. *Granby West* had a discussion on the Hobby Workshop. A contest and a quiz, both with prizes, formed the program. A baby set was sent to the Friendly Home in *Montreal* and \$5 voted the Q.W.I. Service Fund. *South Roxton* sent gifts to *Bondville Orphanage*. *Warden* heard the report of the semi-annual and contests were also a part of the program. Two pairs of blankets were donated to *Le Flambeau Home* at *Bondville*.

Stanstead: A new branch is added to the roll for this county, *Hatley Centre*. A warm welcome to the Q.W.I. is given and we shall hope to hear from them every month in this column. *Ayer's Cliff* had a round table discussion on "A Household Routine that Really Works". Money was voted for diapers for the *Cecil Memorial Home* and \$25 toward hot lunches at the school. *Beebe* also reports a donation of \$25 for school hot lunches and diapers

for the *Cecil Memorial Home*. A silver spoon was given a new baby and 25 yds of flannellette to a family whose home was destroyed by fire. *Hatley* had a quiz on birds. A committee was chosen to look after the Fair exhibit. *Minton* heard a talk given by Dr. Harrington of *North Hatley*, who also spoke at her own branch, *North Hatley* on "Canadian Doctors and their Contribution to Medicine". A record player and \$15 with which to buy records was given the *Cecil Memorial Home* and help to a needy family. *Stanstead North* voted \$50 for hot lunches at *Sunnyside School*. Mrs. Lemon gave the broadcast over *WIKE*, *Newport*, the script prepared by Miss *Norma Holmes* on "The Little Red School House". Here silver spoons were given to two new babies.

Vaudreuil: *Harwood* heard a talk on "Child Care", by Mrs. C. M. McCrea, of the Children's Service Centre, *Montreal*. Mrs. Temple spoke on Guide and Brownie Packs and Mrs. Norcott read an article on "School Training for Retarded Children". A going-away gift was presented Mrs. Sage, a member leaving the community, \$5 sent to Save the Children Fund and \$25 voted the *Harwood Singers* for their music library.

Office Doings

At the annual meeting of the Women's Voluntary Services a pin was presented to the Q.W.I. representative, who received it on behalf of the Institute members. This was given in recognition of the support always given W.V.S. projects. Starting with the first one, Personal Parcels during and after World War II, and carrying on for the current one of knitted squares to be made up into blankets for Greece and Korea, Institute members have played a leading part in contributing to the success of both undertakings. The Q.W.I. may well be proud of this honour, one never lightly bestowed by the W.V.S. Other Provincial Institutes received similar awards.

Miss Marion Royce, Director of the newly formed Women's Bureau, Department of Labour, *Ottawa*, was the speaker at the last meeting of the *Montreal Council of Women*. This Bureau has been set up largely as a result of requests made by national women's groups, and is designed to bring about a wider understanding of women's problems in employment. About one-quarter of the women of Canada are gainfully employed and form about 23% of the total working force in this country. "It is true and we must recognize it, that there are certain qualities that do differentiate between men and women, both have something to contribute to the economy and social structure of our country". Miss Royce contended, and she hoped the Bureau would be able to make some contribution to the women of Canada.

Note the dates of this year's Annual Leadership Training Course, as given in the story of the semi-annual in this issue. Particulars should reach all branches by the end of the month (March).



THE COLLEGE PAGE

The Macdonald Clam

Notes and News of Staff Members and Former Students

Former Staff Member Heads Veterinary Services



Dr. Kenneth Wells, who was Lecturer in Animal Pathology and College Veterinarian for a time following the retirement of Dr. Conklin in 1939, has been appointed Veterinary Director General at Ottawa, following the retirement of Dr. Thomas Childs.

When the foot and mouth epidemic broke out in 1952 Dr. Wells was placed in active charge of the program for confinement and eradication in Saskatchewan, and his vigorous approach to the task was widely commended. He was one man who had some practical experience with foot and mouth disease, for he had previously spent some time in the United Kingdom and in Europe studying their methods of control, and had been in Mexico as an observer at the time of the outbreak there.

As Associate Chief Veterinarian at Ottawa since 1947 he has engaged actively in field work on contagious disease control in the Maritimes, Ontario and the West. He has thus acquired a thorough knowledge of the conditions under which livestock and poultry are reared in Canada and of the measures needed to guard their health.

Eric Boulden Passes

Charles Eric Boulden, a graduate of the class of 1918, passed away at his well-loved Sunny Slope Farm at Windsor, N.S. following a long period of hospitalization. His death is the first break among the group of men of the original field staff of the agricultural representative service in Nova Scotia who began work in 1926.

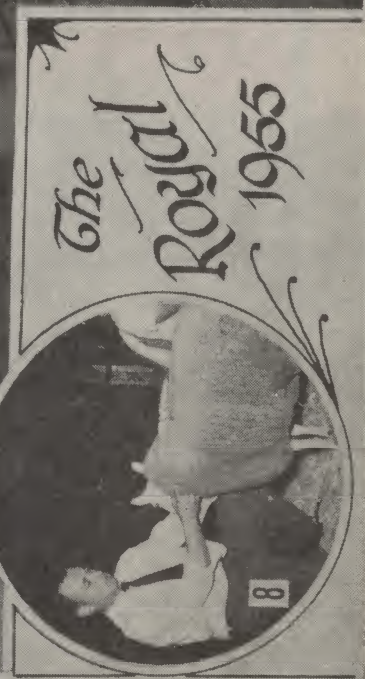
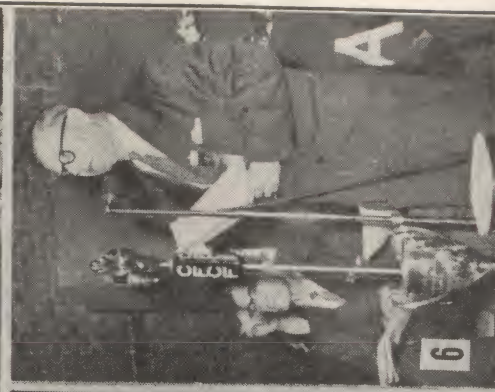
Mr. Boulden entered Macdonald College in 1914, enlisted in the P.P.C.L.I., was wounded and repatriated and returned to college to graduate in 1918. For a few months after graduating he worked in the Animal Husbandry Department of the College as Assistant; then

followed a series of increasingly important appointments with the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture, culminating with the principalship of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College, a position he occupied until illness forced his retirement in 1946.

His farm, where he specialized in Jersey cattle, Cheviot sheep, Clydesdale horses and Yorkshire hogs, was usually included in any conducted farmers' tour where the visitors were also attracted by his 1000 barrel orchard, his fine stands of alfalfa and other crops and by the evidences of good farming practices. His work and accomplishments have been those of a teacher, and few could appeal to an audience better than he, whether it be composed of students or of farmers. He co-operated easily and well with others, and the practical aspects of farming, and the teaching of them to others, were both his vocation and his avocation. He will be long remembered, warmly and affectionately, by men and women in all walks of life.

Another Good Royal

Macdonald College students chalked up another successful Royal last month, and some of its highlights are shown in our picture story . 1: Household Science students modeled clothes designed and made by themselves. 2: The Queen of the Royal, Miss Joyce Wideman of Deschenes, P.Q., was crowned with due ceremony by Prof. Brawn. 3: Grade XI pupils from High Schools in Quebec and the Ottawa Valley were invited to the Royal and some are shown here in the Assembly Hall where they were welcomed by members of the staff and by student executives. 4: Diploma II won the Animal Husbandry Club shield for the high aggregate in livestock showing, and here John Oswald receives the award on behalf of the class from Prof. Maw. 5: In the booth display the Entomology students, with an exhibit featuring forest spraying, won top honours. 6: The Royal was opened by Waldo Walsh, Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Nova Scotia. 7: Candy making demonstrations were a popular feature of the Household Science contribution. 8: Russel Dow of Metcalfe, Ont., was champion sheep showman and grand champion showman for livestock. 9: Booth judges were Frank Ryan of Station CFRA, Ottawa, Margaret McCready, formerly Director of the School of Household Science and now Director of Macdonald Hall, Guelph, Ont., and Mr. Walsh.





THE MACDONALD LASSIE